

# News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Photos available on request

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## Award Recipients Announced for California State Park Director's Recognition Program

SACRAMENTO – California State Parks Acting Director **Ruth Coleman** announced the recipients for the 2002 Director's Recognition Program Awards in a ceremony held yesterday on August 27 in Sacramento.

"While all California State Park employees carry out their duties with great dedication," said Coleman, "these employees have been singled out to receive special recognition in the form of the highest State Park honors possible for their extraordinary accomplishments. Their efforts have contributed immeasurably toward providing our visitors with park experiences that have quite literally enhanced the quality of their lives."

The Olmstead Award for Leadership and Vision was awarded to the late **Carol Nelson**, Field Services Division Chief – Retired.

The Hill Award for Inspiration was awarded to **Michael Tope**, State Parks Superintendent, Orange Coast District.

The Drury Award for Professional Integrity was awarded to **Hans Kreutzberg**, Office of Historic Preservation, and **Rebecca Brown**, Staff Services Manager III, Budget Section, Administrative Services Division.

The Mott Award for Innovation was awarded to **Alan Willhite**, State Park Maintenance Supervisor, South Sector, Central Valley District.

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The Dewitt Award for Partnership was awarded to **Richard “Rick” Sermon**, State Parks Superintendent II, North Coast Redwoods District and **Andrew “Andy” Ringgold**, National Park Superintendent, Redwood National and State Parks.

The Ingenuity Award was given to **Jeff Herman**, Supervising State Park Ranger, Gold Mines Sector, Sierra District.

Special commendations were awarded to:

**Barney Matsumoto**, State Park Senior Landscape Architect, Acquisition and Development Division

**Brian Cahill**, District Interpretive Specialist, Colorado Desert District

The department’s East Bay Shoreline General Plan Team represented by: **Ron Schafer**, State Park District Superintendent; **Brian Hickey**, State Park Superintendent III (Bay Area District); **Robin Ettinger**, Associate Landscape Architect (Northern Service Center, Acquisition and Development Division); and **Larry Tong**, East Bay Regional Parks Planner (East Bay Regional Parks District).

California Department of Parks and Recreation Partner, **Ellyn Levinson**, Attorney, Attorney General’s Office.

The department’s Human Rights Office represented by **Ray Ann Watson**, Staff Services Manager II, Human Rights Office/External Affairs Division

**Julia Sidel**, State Park Interpreter I, Mountain Sector, Santa Cruz District

**Liz Prather**, Northern Service Center, Acquisition and Development Division

**Maria Baranowski**, Senior Architect, Northern Service Center, Acquisition and Development Division

The Office of Grants and Local Services Team represented by **Charlie Willard**, Chief, Grants and Local Services/External Affairs Division

**Sterl Cogar**, Skilled Laborer, Calaveras District

The award for Special Act or Special Service was given to **Sharon Galligan**, Supervising State Park Ranger, Santa Cruz District.

For more information on the specific details of the awards, please contact John Arnold at State Parks at (916) 653-7090. In addition, digital pictures are available for most of the recipients.

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